

Minutes  
Prescription Work Group  
10/18/06

Present: Todd Johnson, Tom Warner, Gladys Scott, Kim Vander Weyden, Dianne Vander Weyden, Melinda Malott, Katherine Murray, Vicki Mills, Kathy Sargent

Guest: Heather Kirby – Director for Care Coordination, FMH

Melinda presented and reviewed ground rules to the group.

Melinda presented information regarding Medbank software. She will e-mail the response from Medbank to the group. There can be more than one entity in the county with the software. There are some fees associated with it.

Tom Warner presented his research and displayed it on a wiring process flow diagram on the very specific problem of patients needing prescriptions between the time they are discharged from the hospital and when they will qualify for some assistance. He specifically discussed Medicaid Pharmacy assistance and Medbank.

- Medicaid – there is an emergency procedure except if you are disabled as defined by COMAR. Medicaid income eligibility guidelines have not changed since 1994.
- Pharmacy Assistance Programs – there is no emergency process
- Medbank – there is a physical Medbank pharmacy in Baltimore and if they have the needed medication on hand for a qualifying applicant and if that patient has a primary care physician, that medication can be shipped directly to the physician to dispense to the patient. This isn't a viable solution for someone leaving the Emergency Department with prescriptions because the ED physicians are not considered the patient's primary care and rotate every day.

Heather Kirby attended the meeting. She is the Director for Care Coordination and Home Health Services at FMH. She described the processes that her staff explore and provide to patient who leave the hospital and require medication assistance.

Todd Johnson presented a comprehensive list of resources developed by the Community Action Agency for emergency and non-urgent medication needs. In addition there is financial references and information on the list that may help a consumer reduce other living costs that could facilitate their ability to afford their medications.

There was discussion around a one-stop shop clearing house and also a statewide data base with all the resources a consumer might need. While these are potential solutions it was suggested we "park" these ideas in the "parking lot" while we continue to further our research and work toward the competition of our primary objectives. There was more

discussion around the need for education regarding these resources for the consumers, providers and agencies that serve the most vulnerable groups.

Next Step: Todd will send Melinda a template for adding additional resources to the list. Melinda will distribute the template to the group and any group member with additional. Once Melinda distributes the template, members are to fill in the information regarding the resources they have researched and send it to Melinda. Members are encouraged to provide as much information as possible.

The next meeting will be November 15, 2006 4-6 pm in one of the FMH classrooms on the second floor.

### **Meeting Ground Rules**

1. We agree to take turns speaking and not interrupt each other.
2. Make a contribution - everyone is responsible for the success of the group.
3. Focus on issues and content, not personalities and people.
4. We recognize that, even if we do not agree with it, each of us is entitled to our own perspective.
5. We will not dwell on things that did not work in the past, but instead will focus on future work.
6. We agree to make a conscious, sincere effort to refrain from unproductive arguing, venting, or narration, and agree to use meeting time to work toward towards the goals and objectives of the project.
7. We agree that the facilitator will be the main person in charge of keeping to the meeting agenda and enforcing ground rules.
8. Respect meeting time.
9. Please turn cell phone ringers off.
10. To maximize our working time together we agree to share our personal experiences before or after the designated meeting time